



United States
Environmental Protection
Agency

Office of Public Affairs
Region 5
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Illinois, Indiana
Michigan,
Minnesota,
Ohio, Wisconsin

U.S. EPA Begins Phase III Investigation Tremont City Landfill Site

Tremont City, Ohio

May 2001

The United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) has prepared this fact sheet to inform you of the progress in the investigation of the Tremont City Landfill Site near Tremont City, Ohio. This fact sheet includes a summary of the Phase II investigation and describes plans for the final phase of investigation (Phase III) to be conducted in May and June 2001.

The Tremont City Landfill Site (the Site) consists of three main areas: the barrel fill, the waste transfer facility, and the landfill. The Tremont Landfill Company (a subsidiary of Diversified Environmental Management Company, a subsidiary of the Danis Companies) owns the Site, which is no longer in operation. Based on an extensive review of Site documents, the U.S. EPA concluded that a preliminary investigation was needed to determine if the Site poses a risk to human health and the environment.

The results of the Phase I investigation were briefly described in the October 2000 fact sheet. Key Phase II investigation results are presented in this fact sheet. Other fact sheets will be sent to you as the data from the three phases of investigation are compiled and analyzed. The U.S. EPA expects to issue a report with recommendations for how to address contamination issues at the Site later this year.

The U.S. EPA is conducting a third and final phase of investigation at the Tremont City Landfill Site in May and June 2001. The investigation will include samples of seeps, streams, leachate, groundwater and soil collected at the barrel fill and from around the Site. Samples from about 20 private wells also will be collected from residences near the Site. Following completion of the investigation, the U.S. EPA will compile all of the data, analyze it and develop a report with recommendations for how to address contamination issues at the Site. The report, which will focus primarily on the barrel fill, will be released later this year.

Barrel Fill

The barrel fill is an 8.5-acre site in which 47,000 drums of industrial waste and 52,000 gallons of liquids and sludge were buried. During Phase II, seven soil borings up to 151 feet deep were drilled around the barrel fill. Five of these borings were converted to monitoring wells. Groundwater sample results showed that chromium was present in a deep well (150 feet) located approximately 75 feet northeast of the barrel fill. The chromium concentration in this well was above background (naturally occurring) levels. This finding may indicate that metal contamination associated with the barrel fill is working its way downward into an aquifer. Phase III includes at least one soil boring

drilled to assess soil conditions and chemical concentrations directly beneath the barrel fill. This boring will be drilled at an angle in order to avoid going through the barrel fill itself. One additional monitoring well will be installed to obtain background groundwater quality data in the area west of the barrel fill. Samples of the seeps and drainage ditch near the barrel fill also will be collected.

Waste Transfer Facility

The waste transfer facility is a 14-acre area located south of the barrel fill and north of the landfill. Past operations conducted here include waste oil recycling, transfer of drums to the barrel fill, and waste oil ponds and lagoons. Soil and groundwater samples collected from this area during Phase I and Phase II revealed no significant contamination. The U.S. EPA plans no further investigation of this area.

Landfill

The Phase II investigation of the 58-acre landfill area included five soil borings around the landfill to depths ranging from 34 to 155 feet. Four of these borings were converted to monitoring wells. Soil, sediment, surface

water and groundwater samples were collected. Groundwater contaminants detected included metals and low levels of several volatile organic compounds and semi-volatile organic compounds, consistent with prior sampling results. The U.S. EPA plans to collect additional groundwater, surface water, sediment, and leachate samples during Phase III. Sediment and water samples also will be collected from Chapman Creek to confirm the earlier sample results.

Groundwater Studies

The United States Geological Survey (USGS) conducted a regional groundwater elevation study in October and November 2000. Water levels were measured in about 90 domestic water supply wells within 2.5 miles of the Site and in about 60 on-site monitoring wells. The USGS also evaluated the flow characteristics of Chapman Creek during that period. In early May 2001, the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) installed four new wells near Chapman Creek to help evaluate groundwater flow patterns near the creek. The data from the USGS and Ohio EPA studies will help the U.S. EPA evaluate the potential for groundwater contaminant migration in the Site vicinity.

The Phase III investigation sampling plan includes collection of samples from about 20 private water supply wells located near the Site. The purpose of this sampling is to check water quality at selected wells and to get more background water quality data. The U.S.EPA will ask property owners for permission to sample their wells.

Biological Evaluation of Chapman Creek

The Ohio EPA performed a biological survey of Chapman Creek near the Site. The survey results indicated a substantial improvement in stream ecology as compared to prior surveys done in 1984 and 1994. The Ohio EPA concluded that Chapman Creek is a cold-water habitat stream that supports a diversity of species. This information will be used by the U.S.EPA as it evaluates the potential risk to aquatic environments downstream from the Site.

To find out more about the investigation at the Site, please visit the information repositories at:

Clark County Public Library

201 South Fountain Street
Springfield, OH 45501

Hours: Mon. – Fri. 9 a.m. – 9 p.m.

Sat. 9 a.m. – 6 p.m.

Sun. 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Tremont City United Methodist Church

98 North Mulberry Street
Tremont City, OH 45372

(937) 969-8553 (call for appointment)

QUESTIONS?

Call the U.S. EPA at 1-800-621-8431, ask for Denise Battaglia

View Site information on the Internet:
<http://www.epa.gov/region5/sites>

CONFERENCE ANNOUNCEMENT

The U.S. EPA is providing information on the following conference as a courtesy to those who may be interested in the redevelopment of idled, abandoned or underutilized commercial/industrial properties. This conference is not related to the Tremont City Landfill Site.

BROWNFIELDS 2001

September 24 – 26, 2001

McCormick Place Convention Center

Chicago, IL

For information contact the U.S. EPA at 1-800-621-8431, ask for Virginia Narsete

View conference information on the Internet at <http://www.brownfields2001.org>